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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention provides an image processing apparatus/method characterized by inputting image data, detecting an object in the input image data, measuring 5 the distance from the detected object to a predetermined position, and detecting a predetermined object on the basis of the measurement result.

This invention also provides an image processing apparatus/method characterized by inputting image data 10 by image pickup means having an optical system, detecting an object in the input image data, controlling the optical system of the image pickup means, and detecting a predetermined object on the basis of the object detection result and the optical 15 system control result.

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